

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /085 W
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O 221810 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3855

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TAGS: PFOR, BY, US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ASKS CLARIFICATION REPORTED U. S.

REMARKS ON BURUNDI

1. FONMIN SIMBANANIYE CALLED IN AMBASSADOR THIS EVENING TO SHOW HIM REUTERS FRENCH LANGUAGE DESPATCH DATED WASHINGTON, JUNE 19 WHICH QUOTES "A SPOKESMAN OF DEPT OF STATE" AS SAYING THAT "THE DEMARCHES MADE BY THE U. S. TO ALERT WORLD OPINION AGAINST A NEW MASSACRE OF HUTUS IN BURUNDI HAVE BEEN RECEIVED WITH SYMPATHY BUT HAVE NOT GIVEN CONCRETE RESULTS." SPOKESMAN REPORTED AS SAYING THAT DEPT HAD NOTED THE ALARMING NEWS RECEIVED RECENTLY FROM BURUNDI,

ACCORDING TO WHICH TUTSIS ARE SAID TO HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW WAVE OF MASSACRES AGAINST THE HUTUS. THE DEPARTMENT'S SOURCES ARE SAID IN ARTICLE TO TALK OF "AN EVEN MORE ATROCIOUS GENOCIDE THAN THE MASSACRES COMMITTED BY THE TUTSIS LAST YEAR." ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE MASSACRES OF HUTUS HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN AN ORGANIZED AND SYSTEMATIC WAY. WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE NOT SPARED AND ENTIRE VILLAGES ARE RAZED. ARTICLE FURTHER SPEAKS OF U. S. APPROACHES TO OAU, ZAIRE AND TANZANIA TO "PUT PRESSURE ON BURUNDI SO THAT HUTUS WILL BENEFIT FROM GREATER RIGHTS AND THAT A PLACE WILL BE MADE FOR THEM IN THE GOVERNMENT."

2. SIMBANANIYE SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT PRESS ACCOUNTS NOT ALWAYS RELIABLE AND HE WANTED TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION DIRECTLY FROM
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SOURCE.

3. AMBASSADOR TOLD SIMBANANIYE THAT LAST STATEMENT BY STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HE HAD SEEN WAS THAT GIVEN JUNE 8. HE WOULD PROVIDE COPY. U. S. HAD SINCE THEN CONSULTED WIDELY TO SEEK MEANS INTRODUCING INTERNATIONAL ELEMENT INTO SERIOUS BURUNDI SITUATION. IN LONG SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGE, AMBASSADOR MADE STRONG PITCH FOR GRB NOT ONLY ACCEPTING BUT INITIATING OAU PRESENCE GOING BEYOND PRESENT TERMS OF REFERENCE GOWON COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY OAU SUMMIT.

4. ASSUME REUTERS DESPATCH BASED ON SAME CONVERSATIONS REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 STATE 119987. APPRECIATE FURTHER GUIDANCE INCLUDING WHAT HAD BEEN TOLD NDABANIWE.
YOST

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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